Farmer Reported Genetically Enhanced Varieties

The National Agricultural Statistics Service conducts objective yield surveys in major corn, soybean, and Upland cotton producing states each year. Randomly selected plots in corn for grain, soybean, and Upland cotton fields are visited monthly from August through harvest to obtain specific counts and measurements. Detailed information concerning the selected fields is obtained during an initial producer interview. Respondents were asked if they planted seed that, through conventional breeding or bio-technology, was resistant to herbicides or insects.

The following table is based on responses from the seed variety questions on the 1998 and 1999 Objective Yield surveys. These data are not official estimates of the Agricultural Statistics Board, but are intended to show trends in production practices. Herbicide resistant varieties include those developed using both bio-technology and conventional breeding techniques. Insect resistant varieties include those containing bacillus thuringiensis (Bt.) only.

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Percent of Harvested Acres, by Crop, 1998 - 1999

Crop	Herbicide Resistant		Insect Resistant (Bt)	
	1998	1999	1998	1999
	Percent			
Corn for Grain [1]	9	8	26	30
Soybeans [2]	42	57		
Upland Cotton [3]	33	38	23	27

[1] 7-State Total: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, Ohio, Wisconsin. These 7 States accounted for 69 percent of the U.S. harvested acreage in both 1998 and 1999.

[2] 8-State Total: Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio. These 8 States accounted for 71 percent of the U.S. harvested acreage in both 1998 and 1999.

[3] 5-State Total: Arkansas, California, Louisiana, Mississippi, Texas. These 5 States accounted for 60 percent of the U.S. harvested acreage in 1998 and 63 percent in 1999.